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Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1-7 are in the application. No claims have been amended. Claims 1-7 will still be pending upon entry of this response. Applicants believe no additional fee is due.

The Examiner has rejected all of Applicants' claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,026,437 to Muschett et al. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's characterization of their invention in view of Muschett. It is axiomatic that, in order for a claim to be anticipated, the cited reference must teach every element of the claim, either expressly or inherently. M.P.E.P. § 2131. All of Applicants' claims have recitations for which no corresponding teaching or disclosure can be found in Muschett.

Among others, consider the example of the following recitations, which are found in all of the independent claims directly, and all of the dependent claims through their dependence. Applicants' claims recite "accessing a registry to determine which applications are installed," "creating a hypertext markup language (HTML) file specifying the applications that are installed," and "displaying the HTML file in a browser so that a user can select any one of the applications that is installed as a selected application to launch. . . ." (Emphasis added). Applicants submit that conventional claim interpretation rules with regard to antecedent basis apply to these recitations. As is known by those of skill in the art, a registry is a portion of a computer operating system, which specifies information about how the computer is configured, including what applications are installed. These applications can be word processors, games, photo editors, etc., basically any type of application that the computer system is capable of running. There is no discussion or even remote suggestion in Muschett of accessing a registry to determine which applications are installed. The word "registry" does not even occur in Muschett. There is no creation of an HTML file specifying the applications installed as determined by accessing a registry. And there is no provision to allow a user to select any one of the applications that is installed. Instead, Muschett allows a user to access only HTML code and an applet in a Java JAR file that has been set up to be accessed over the Internet. These types of files can be run without accessing the registry to determine the installed applications.

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Applicants have examined the specific text references that the Examiner has provided, but cannot find the teaching that the Examiner submits is there. For example, there is no discussion or suggestion of accessing a registry in col. 8, lines 5-17 and 30-45 of Muschett. Rather, this portion of Muschett discusses filling out form fields on a web page. There is no mention of being able to launch any of the installed applications on a computer system in col. 6, lines 15-25 or col. 7, lines 50-67. The former discusses generic web browser technology and the latter discusses how a web server operates, including the use of CGI scripts, which again, must be set up to be accessed, usually over the Internet, and such access does not involve accessing the registry to determine installed applications. Applicants' invention as claimed does not even require the use of a server.

Applicants believe they have responded to all of the concerns raised by the Examiner. Reconsideration of this application in view of the remarks/arguments contained herein is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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